



Key Compliance Attributes of the Internal Audit Function - Report: June 30, 2020

Published: 2020-10-15

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada,
represented by the President of the Treasury Board 2020,

Published by Treasury Board of Canada, Secretariat
90 Elgin, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0R5, Canada

Catalogue Number: BT1-55E-PDF
ISSN: 2562-7449

This document is available on the Government of Canada website, Canada.ca

This document is available in alternative formats upon request.

Aussi offert en français sous le titre : Principaux attributs de conformité de la fonction d'audit interne -
Rapport : le 30 juin 2020

Key Compliance Attributes of the Internal Audit Function - Report: June 30, 2020

From [Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat](#)

Background

The Internal Audit and Evaluation Bureau (IAEB) helps the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS) meet its objectives by providing valued advice for decision-making to senior management.

The internal audit function provides this advice by taking a systematic, disciplined approach to improving the effectiveness of processes for risk management, control and governance. In doing so, the function provides independent and objective assurance that TBS's activities are managed in a way that demonstrates responsible stewardship.

The IAEB conducts its audit work in accordance with:

- the Treasury Board [Policy on Internal Audit](#)
- the Institute of Internal Auditors' [International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing](#) (the Standards)

The [Directive on Internal Audit](#) requires that all departments provide information on key compliance attributes to demonstrate the professionalism, performance and

impact of their internal audit function. The attributes are not performance measures, and no targets are attached.

Professionalism of staff

Collectively, internal audit staff at TBS make up a diverse and multidisciplinary team that has the requisite knowledge, skills and other competencies to fulfill their responsibilities, as demonstrated in Table 1. In addition, the IAEB has staff members who have advanced knowledge of data analytics.

Table 1: designations and certifications

Designation or certification	Percentage of staff who hold a designation or certification or are obtaining one
Internal audit or accounting designation (Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA)) [*] [†]	60%
Internal audit or accounting designation (CIA, CPA) is in progress	20%
Other designations [†] (Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA) and others)	20%
<div><div>[*]</div><div>There are 10 IAEB staff members as of June 30, 2020, including the Chief Audit Executive and the Committee Secretariat Manager for the TBS Audit Committee. The total excludes members of the data analytics team who support internal audit and evaluation functions.</div></div> <div><div>[†]</div><div>Staff members may have multiple certifications in addition to those related to internal audit or accounting.</div></div>	

Professional practices and quality assurance

The internal audit function at TBS conducts its work in conformance with the international standards for the profession. Information related to its activities, including status updates of ongoing engagements, human resources initiatives and follow-up on audit recommendations are presented to the TBS Audit Committee at each of its meeting.

A comprehensive briefing on the IAEB's Quality Assurance and Improvement Program was provided to the Committee in June 2019, outlining the results of the function's self-assessment. The self-assessment was conducted to evaluate conformance with the Institute of Internal Auditors' Code of Ethics and the Standards. It is anticipated that the next comprehensive briefing to the Committee will be held in fall 2020.

The most recent external assessment was completed on December 2016.

Risk-Based Audit Plan and related information

The internal audits conducted by the IAEB are planned based on the approved, multi-year Integrated Audit and Evaluation Plan. The plan is reviewed and discussed at meetings of the TBS Audit Committee and the departmental Performance Measurement and Evaluation Committee. Details on the audit engagements are listed in Table 2.

Table 2: internal audit engagements planned or completed by the IAEB as of June 30, 2020

Project	Status	Report's approval date	Report's date of publication	Planned Management Action Plan completion	Implementation status
Completed					
Joint Audit and Evaluation of Privacy Practices at Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat	Completed	August 22, 2019	January 9, 2020	April 30, 2020	To be validated in fall 2020
Audit of TBS Pay Controls	Completed	July 22, 2020	Pending	March 31, 2021	To be validated in fall 2020
Advisory: Review of the Business Owner Role	Completed	October 15, 2019	n/a	n/a	n/a
Advisory: Review of IT Cloud Security	Completed	February 11, 2020	n/a	n/a	n/a

Advisory: Inventory of HR and Pay Controls	Completed	March 31, 2020	n/a	n/a	n/a
Planned or ongoing					
Audit of Acquisition Cards	Conduct phase	Pending	Pending	Pending	Pending
Roles and Responsibilities of a Benefit Plan (Assurance Engagement)	Planned for launch in Q4 of 2020–21 fiscal year	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Advisory: GCfm Readiness Assessment	Ongoing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Advisory: IT Security (Privacy)	Planned	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Advisory: Support to TBS on Pandemic Response–Related Initiatives	Ongoing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Value added to senior management


The IAEB collects post-engagement survey results to gauge management sentiments on the value of the internal audit services rendered.

100% of senior management rated the overall usefulness of the Joint Audit and Evaluation of Privacy Practices at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat as being “excellent” or “good.” Results from other completed engagements will be reported in next year’s report on key compliance attributes.

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, represented by the President of the Treasury Board,
2020,

Catalogue No.BT1-55E-PDF, ISSN: 2562-7449

► Report a problem or mistake on this page

 Share this page

Date modified: 2020-10-15

Contact us

Departments and agencies

Public service and military

News

Treaties, laws and regulations

Government-wide reporting

Prime Minister

About government

Open government


• Social media

• Mobile applications

• About Canada.ca

• Terms and conditions

• Privacy

Top of page 

Canada 